

Parks As Classrooms School Programs

2010–2011
All Programs are Free
www.nps.gov/goga/forteachers



Parks As Classrooms

Dynamic Parks As Classrooms programs can be timed to introduce concepts, reinforce understanding, or stimulate culminating projects within your teaching unit. Programs include classroom lessons, a national park field session, and final projects in which students can illustrate what they learned. You are provided with a notebook outlining suggested activities and teaching strategies.

You and your students have four ways to participate in Parks As Classrooms:

- Inquiry with the Ranger—facilitated programs
- Investigate on Your Own—self-guided
- Service Learning—applied skills
- Electronic Toolkits—online inquiry

** Inquiry with the Ranger programs require attendance at a Teachers’ Workshop, and are limited to one class.



Inquiry with the Ranger

Sensible Habitats | Grades K–1

Is it alive? From hillside to bayside, the environment around Fort Point displays an intriguing diversity of plant and animal life. Students engage in activities that help them develop an appreciation for terrestrial and aquatic habitats. They observe, describe, and compare the wildlife to be found, from songbirds to rock crabs.

Petal Pushers | Grades 2–3

Bring your knee-high naturalists to the Presidio Native Plant Nursery for an A-Z indigenous plant adventure. Students will gain a stronger understanding of plant adaptation and life cycle while growing their own healthy stewardship ethic. A fun and effective way to connect your class to nature and ecology!

Into the Redwood Forest | Grades 3–4

Your students immerse themselves in the magic of Muir Woods National Monument, which preserves one of the last remaining old-growth redwood forests in the Bay Area. These clue-seeking scientists pose questions, look for evidence, and communicate explanations under the canopy of the redwood trees.

Point of Inquiry | Grade 4

At the straits of the Golden Gate sits Fort Point, an enduring symbol of Gold Rush San Francisco. Your history sleuths will investigate all corners of this massive brick and granite fort to imagine life at the bluffs of the city. Then, they hike the nearby trails and join in group games. Co-sponsored by the Presidio Community YMCA.

Alcatraz Uncovered | Grades 6–8

Excite your curious archeologists with Alcatraz Island as their very own case study. Alcatraz served as a military post, a federal penitentiary, the site of an American Indian civil rights protest, and the subject of Hollywood movies. What traces can be unmasked with careful observation and inference?

Rocks on the Move | Grades 6–8

Take your class on a hike on the ancient seafloor and explore how human history and geology interact. Students study the global geologic forces that formed the Bay Area landscapes, and then come to the Marin Headlands to unveil how these forces are recorded in local rocks and discover evidence of human influence on geologic processes.



Investigate on Your Own

Nature's Classroom | Grades K–5

Nature's Classroom guides K-5 species spotters on a magical journey through Muir Woods and other natural communities along the Redwood Creek Watershed. Please see park website for details and materials. For reservations, please call 415.388.2596.

Artillery, Bricks & Co. | Grades 3–5

Artillery, Bricks & Co. sends crafty time travelers in search of everyday life in 1860s Fort Point as they uncover the stories of the soldiers, laundresses, stone masons, and more. Please see park website for details and materials. For reservations, please call 415.561.2829.

Service Learning

Talking 'Bout My Regeneration | Grades 6–12

The park is thriving and so can your students as they join NPS staff and volunteers in restoration work in the nursery and the field. Students experience the direct relationship between classroom science and the ecological and horticultural concepts used in national parks. Limited to one class. Individual students may apply for opportunities. For reservations, please call 415.561.3077.



We offer additional education programs through Crissy Field Center. Crissy Field Center in the Presidio is a partnership of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Presidio Trust and the National Park Service.



Electronic Toolkits

Looking for interactive inquiry online learning activities?

- Questioning Artifacts: Archeology of Alcatraz Island **Grades 6-12**
- Plants: Dichotomous from Top to Bottomous **Grades 5-9**
- Subduction Construction: Plate Tectonics at the Golden Gate **Grades 6-12**

Seeking resources about local natural and cultural history to enrich your science and social studies curriculum?

- PARK Teachers Geology delves deep into plate tectonics and the Franciscan Complex
- Honorable Duty introduces the Buffalo Soldiers and the dilemma they faced serving in the War for Independence in the Philippines
- Nature and Science provides key information on plants and animals of Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- History and Culture offers insights about people and places of the Bay Area

Please check our website during the year for new resources.

www.nps.gov/goga/forteachers

Registration Opens August 17

How To Register

Go to www.nps.gov/goga/forteachers for form.
Email form to Lynn_Fonfa@nps.gov

Or mail this completed registration form to
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Parks As Classrooms
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123-1307

Applications accepted until October 15, 2010.

School Program Registration Form

Teacher _____

School _____

Grade _____

of students _____ # of chaperones _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____

School Phone _____

Email _____



Workshop Dates

- ☐ Sensible Habitats—01/13/2011
- ☐ Petal Pushers—01/08/2011
- ☐ Into the Redwood Forest—01/08/2011
- ☐ Point of Inquiry—01/20/2011
- ☐ Alcatraz Uncovered—01/22/2011
- ☐ Rocks on the Move—10/16/2010

Confirmation

Directions and additional program information will be included with your confirmation letter.

I heard about the programs from:

- ☐ A colleague
- ☐ Website
- ☐ Presidio Teachers' Night
- ☐ I've participated in park programs.

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